1st March 1930]

Grants to Puttur taluk for anti-malarial operations.

*1536 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA: With reference to question No. 601 answered on 27th September 1929, will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) what grant has been asked for by the President, Taluk Board, Puttur, for carrying out his scheme of anti-malarial operations; and

(b) what action Government have taken on his request?

A.—(a) & (b) The President, Taluk Board, Puttur, requested that a grant of about Rs. 1,000 should be given to the Taluk Board to carry out a scheme of anti-malarial operations and he has been informed that under the present policy of the Government no grant is admissible to the Taluk Board towards the cost of such measures.

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA:—"With reference to the answer given to this question, may I know what is the present policy of the Government in making grants to taluk boards?"

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR:—"There is no policy to make grants. The President, Taluk Board, was informed that no grant was admissible to the Taluk Board, Puttur, towards the cost of anti-malarial measures."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA:—"I want to know what is the positive policy of the Government and not the negative policy."

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR:—"The Government have not yet decided to what positive policy they should adopt towards this question."

Economic condition

Alleged damages by fire in the plague camps of Harpanahalli.

*1537 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the number of huts that caught fire and were burnt in the plague camps of Harpanahalli taluk together with—

(1) the dates,

(2) the number of huts burnt,

(3) the number of lives of human beings and cattle lost,

(4) the extent of loss of property, and

(5) the measures taken, if any, to help the sufferers to rebuild their huts, to feed and clothe themselves, with reference to each of the accidents that have taken place;

(b) whether it is a fact that these accidents are caused by the use, in most cases, of highly inflammable material like cholam stalks right from the ground and that the ryots find it difficult to secure less dangerous material owing to poverty and other causes; and

(c) whether the Government have made any arrangements by which at least the poor could be helped with hutting materials which would expose them less to the danger of fire and, if so, what they are?

A.—(a) to (c) The Government have not the information. They have called for a report.